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**The Canadian Society of New York.**

On December 11, at the annual dinner of the Canadian Society of New York, Secretary Bryan spoke on "The Land We Live In." He laid special emphasis on the reasons why this country and Canada should desire peace with all nations, and said that, because of the vast numbers who come to our shores from all parts of Europe, "when we extend our hand in friendship we extend it to people everywhere. I believe we are making progress, and, while it is not likely that those now living can hope to see the day when there will be no war, I believe in the future there will be such a day." William T. White, finance minister of Canada, declared that today there is mutual understanding, respect, and regard between the United States and Great Britain. The hundred years of peace to be celebrated next year "will usher in a thousand years more," he said—"a millennium between the two great English-speaking nations of the world."

There is every reason to believe that such a period of Anglo-American peace may become also a millennium of peace between all the nations of the world.

**Mr. Taft and the Monroe Doctrine.**

Ex-President Taft addressed a large audience in New York, under the auspices of the New York Peace Society, on the evening of December 11. Mr. Taft contended that the Monroe Doctrine is a national asset of the highest value, especially for those who would promote the peace of the world. He expressed the opinion that the influence of this country in support of that doctrine had best be exercised alone. He pointed out that we have not exploited Porto Rico or the Philippines, that we had Cuba twice in our hands but did not keep it, and that yet the South American nations believe we intend territorial extension. The Monroe Doctrine has made peace for ninety years, said Mr. Taft, and why not for one hundred years more? The speaker believed that custom-houses in South America are at the bases of the various revolutions. Referring to Mexico, he agreed that the condition in Mexico is bad enough, but that European intervention would have made it far worse. Two other points made by the ex-President were that we who are not of the Government should uphold the hands of the President and the Secretary of State, present to the world a solid front with the prayer that the "policy" pursued may bring peace; also that we cannot be too careful to avoid forcing our own ideas of government upon people who, though favoring popular government, have such a different idea as to what constitutes it. Mr. Taft views the problems of Pan-America from the angle of wide and practical experience. His utterances upon any phase of those problems are received, therefore, with interest and attention.

**Among the Peace Organizations.**

The American Association for International Conciliation, in its quarterly report issued in December, 1913, gives the interesting information that Argentina, Brazil, and Peru have all organized branches of the association. The secretary for Argentina is Dr. Benjamin Aracia Victoria, with office at the American Legation, Buenos Aires; for Brazil, Mr. Helio Lobo, care Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro; for Peru, Dr. Juan Bantista de Lavalle, San Pedro, 88, Lima. The association has done especially good service during the past three months in its publication and distribution of such documents as Lord Haldane's "Higher Nationality," President Eliot's "Japanese Characteristics," and Prof. George M. Stratton's "The Control of the Fighting Impulse."

The Honorable Robert Bacon, former Secretary of State and Ambassador to France, has returned from his tour through Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, and Peru. Mr. Bacon's tour was conducted as the representative of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He feels profoundly impressed by the general friendliness of the South American Republics for the United States. As a result of his visit, a number of new National Societies of International Law, of Associations of International Conciliation, and a number of exchange visits of representative men between the United States and South America will undoubtedly follow. But, more important, the spirit of international friendliness will be a finer thing because of Mr. Bacon's presence in the important nations to our south.

The Fourth National Conference of the American Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes was held in Washington, D. C., at the Shoreham Hotel, December 4-6, 1913. Among the questions discussed were: "Possibilities of Judicial Settlement as Shown by Practice of Nations," "The Need and Advantages of an International Court of Justice," "The Monroe Doctrine and the International Court." Distinctions between "Direct Diplomatic Settlement, Good Offices and Mediation, Friendly Composition, Commissions of Inquiry and Arbitration" were instructively drawn. Charles W. Eliot was elected president for the coming year; Dr. James Brown Scott, secretary.

The report of the Department of Peace and Arbitration of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union for 1913 has just been issued by the superintendent, Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey. This department was organized in 1891, and a large amount of educational work has been accomplished, chiefly through the untiring activity of Mrs. Bailey. Fourteen different countries now have organized W. C. T. U. Peace Departments. The reports of the work in the South American countries, in Australasia and India, are especially interesting. Mrs. Frances S. Hallows, the superintendent for India, and author of "The Patriotism of Denys Mahon," writes: "I am 'instant in season and out of season' in circulating peace and arbitration ideas, and sending books and pamphlets in a wide sphere." The women in Australia are active in their opposition to the Defence Act, protesting with vigor "against the crushing of conscience under the iron heel of militarism." The aim of the World's Department is to secure a Peace Department in every civilized nation.

The National Peace and Arbitration Department in our own country was organized in 1887, on the suggestion of Frances E. Willard, at the convention in Nashville, Tennessee, after the claims of the cause had been earnestly advocated by William Jones, then secretary of the Peace Society, London. Mrs. Bailey was made superintendent at that time, and has ever since ably filled the position.

The work of organizing peace societies in Japan goes steadily on, and interest in the movement seems to be growing. Rev. Bradley Gilman, of Massachusetts, has just returned from a trip around the world, and reports that he spent some time in Japan, talking with a number of eminent men there, and speaking on the great theme of arbitration and brotherhood. We quote the following from the *Japan Gazette*:

"The inaugural meeting of the Yokohama Branch of the Japan Peace Society was held yesterday afternoon in the Shiloh Church, at Onoye-cho, 6-chome. Governor Oshima was elected chairman of the branch and Mayor Arakawa vice-chairman, while a number of prominent Japanese business men were appointed to the committee. Mr. Gilbert Bowles was present as representative of the American Peace Society of Japan, and brought greetings from the president of the organization. The Rev. Bradley Gilman, of Boston, one of the lecturers of the American Peace Society, was present, and spoke on the peace movement in the west."

Another of our peace workers, Dr. J. T. Sunderland, has also been in Japan during September and October, and, although sent by the American Unitarian Association as its Billings lecturer, has been doing good service for our cause. Among the topics on which he has spoken to universities, churches, and other prominent bodies in Tokyo, Yokohama, and elsewhere are: "National, Racial, and Religious Brotherhood" and "International Peace and Arbitration." From Japan he expected to sail for Shanghai, thence to the Philippine Islands, Ceylon, and India, in pursuance of his mission.

From the *Japan Peace Movement* for November 13, 1913, the monthly organ of the Japan Peace Society and the American Peace Society of Japan, we glean the following items:

The executive committee of the Japan Peace Society recommended the general observance of the second Sunday in December as Peace Sunday, and the American Peace Society of Japan was expected to co-operate in the effort. The invitation was sent to religious leaders, Buddhist, Christian, and Shinto. The Japan Peace Society was planning to hold a public meeting in the Y. M. C. A. Hall in Tokyo on the afternoon of Peace Sunday.

Count Okuma, the president of the Japan Peace Society, went in November on an extensive trip through the south and west of Japan. He expected to attend a joint meeting at Kobe of the Kobe and Osaka Peace Societies, and also hoped to be present at the opening meeting of the Kyoto Peace Society when the former Oriental Peace Society was to publicly announce its reorganization as the Kyoto branch of the Japan Peace Society.

The annual meeting of the Japan Peace Society will be held on April 8 this year, two months later than heretofore.

## Brief Peace Notes.

... Senator Theodore E. Burton, president of the American Peace Society, is the author of the leading article in the *Saturday Evening Post* of December 6. The title of the paper is "The Day of International Peace." The Senator sets forth graphically the enormous cost of war in its various aspects, economic, physical, and moral. Winston Churchill's proposal is commended. "Competition in armed peace-making" and a number of other sophistries set forth in defense of war are effectively disposed of. While the author believes there will yet be occasional collision between nations, the present military situation is intolerable. He says: "The time will come when either popular education or popular indignation against unbearable demands, or a combination of both, will secure that advance in civilization which men who have carefully studied the situation already know to be inevitable. Then war will be considered merely as a relic or memory of a barbaric antiquity."

... Hon. James L. Slayden has been contributing a series of articles on international peace to the *Farm and Ranch*, a weekly magazine published in Dallas, Texas. The issue for November 15 contained the first article of the series, which was entitled "The Movement for Universal Peace." Four others follow in subsequent numbers of the magazine, among them being one on "Traffickers in War," a third on "Selfishness is the Cause of War," and another on "What Armed Peace Costs the Nations." These articles are written with great clearness, vigor, and fidelity to truth, and will have a pronounced influence, especially through our great Southwest.

... The American Federation of Labor meeting recently at Seattle passed most unequivocal resolutions in favor of international peace. The resolutions also commended President Wilson's efforts to solve the Mexican problem. As Mr. Gompers remarked: "Labor organizations the world over have committed themselves to the policy of international peace—peace with justice and honor in international affairs as well as in industry."

... The British plans for the celebration of the Peace Centenary are being promoted and enlarged constantly. Last month, at about the same time that the American committee was meeting at Richmond, Va., there was gathered in the Hotel Cecil, London, a company of distinguished men to promote the aims of the centenary celebration. Lord Courtney made a strong plea that the time is now ripe for the neutralization of not only the Great Lakes, but also of the great waterways of the world, and said that the crowning glory of a great work might be achieved if the principle were applied to the Panama Canal.

... Mr. Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty of Great Britain, offers a "naval holiday" to Germany with his left hand and a much heavier increase in naval expenditures to his own country with his right. The entire radical press of Great Britain takes the gentleman to task for his gift to England. Indeed, there are many evidences of a party revolt because of Mr. Churchill's jingoism and "sinister influence" on the counsels of the Ministry. The Liberal members